

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII 901 NORTH 5TH STREET KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

VIA TELEFAX AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

September 26, 2001

Steve Mahfood, Director Department of Natural Resources 205 Jefferson Street Jefferson City, Missouri Site: Herculaneum
ID# nob 006246373
Break: 1-0
Other:
9-26-01

Dear Mr. Mahfood:

EPA Region VII has reviewed the proposed Order to Cease and Desist Violations ("Order") which MDNR intends to issue to The Doe Run Resources Corporation. EPA Region VII supports the issuance of this Order. We believe that the actions that Doe Run would be required to take pursuant to the Order are appropriate measures in response to the public health risks due to lead contamination in Herculaneum, Missouri.

The actions required by the proposed Order complement and are consistent with the other recent actions our agencies have taken to address lead contamination in the Herculaneum community. On August 31, 2001, shortly after our receipt of sampling information showing high levels of lead on and near the haul roads used by Doe Run, EPA notified Doe Run that it should immediately undertake actions to clean the haul roads and implement measures to thoroughly clean vehicles leaving the smelter facility. Doe Run has been complying with our request for such actions, and we have been carefully overseeing Doe Run's efforts. The actions contained in the proposed MDNR Order would require Doe Run to continue and expand upon the actions the company has been taking in response to our August 31, 2001 letter, and would make such actions a permanent, enforceable obligation.

In addition, we received notice from Doe Run yesterday that the company is willing to perform expedited soil sampling work in the Herculaneum community, as described in our September 17, 2001 letter to Doe Run. The sampling is required to be completed within sixty days. Also, during the next sixty days, EPA will be conducting indoor dust sampling at certain residences in Herculaneum. The results of these sampling efforts should serve as a basis for decisions by EPA and MDNR regarding the need for and prioritization of residential soil removals and interior dust cleanups. The proposed Order squarely complements our efforts with respect to soils and dusts, by promptly eliminating fugitive dust emissions that could result in soil recontamination.

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SUPERFUND RECORDS

RECYCLE

We appreciate the opportunity to consult with you prior to your issuance of this Order. We are committed to continuing to work with you and the public health agencies to address the health risks posed by the lead contamination in the Herculaneum community.

Sincerely,

William Rice
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Denise Jordan-Izaguirre, ATSDR Dr. Maureen Dempsey, MDOH Shelley Woods, MO Office of the Attorney General